

At a Parliament begun and holden at Westminster the 22d of January, primo Gulielmi & Mariæ Regis & Reginae 1688. Numb. 39.

*An Act for Reversing the Attainder of Henry Cornish Esq;
Late Alderman of the City of London.*

WHEREAS Henry Cornish Esq; late Alderman of the City of London, was indicted of High Treason, upon pretence, That knowing James late Duke of Monmouth, William Russel Esq; and Sir Thomas Armstrong to be Traitors, and to have conspir'd the Death of the late King Charles the Second, promis'd to be assisting to them in such Treasons to bring them to effect; and being thereupon arraign'd at the Sessions-house in the Old Bailey the 19th Day of October, Anno Dom. 1685. altho he was committed for the said Pretended Treason but the 13th of the same October, and had notice of his Trial the 17th of the same October, and was kept close Prisoner from the time of his Commitment to the time of his Trial, and could not possibly therefore prepare himself for his Defence, neither would the Court which try'd him, give him any longer time to prepare himself for his Trial, altho he very much press'd for longer time, having a material Witness to send for, who was not then in Town, and was above 140 miles off. And having pleaded *Not Guilty* to the Indictment, he was presently try'd and convicted on the *Single Evidence* of Col. Rumsey, who swore the Prisoner was in the Room at one Mr. Sheppard's House in Company of the Duke of Monmouth, the Lord Russel, the Lord Gray, Sir Tho. Armstrong, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Sheppard, and the Witness, when a Paper was read, the Contents whereof are a Complaint of the Misgovernment of King Charles the Second, and declaring for Liberty of Conscience, and that all those who would assist in that Insurrection that had Lands of the Church or of the King's in the late Wars, should have them restor'd; to which Paper, as the Witness swore, the Prisoner express'd his liking; Whereas the said Rumsey own'd, when he gave his Evidence, that he did not hear all the Paper read, nor did take great notice of it, and therefore

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was not a competent Witness of the Contents of the Paper. And whereas the said Col. Ramsey had in the Lord Russell's Trial expressly sworn that he was not in the Room when the said pretended Paper was read: And whereas Col. Ramsey, in the same Lord Russell's Trial, expressly mentions the Names of all the Persons in the said Room in the said Mr. Sheppard's House, whereof the said Henry Cornish was none: And whereas Mr. Sheppard, whom Ramsey in his Evidence own'd to be in the Room when the said pretended Paper was read, expressly testify'd, That the said Henry Cornish was not in the Room at the time of the reading the said pretended Paper. For all which Reasons, at the humble Petition and Request of Elizabeth Cornish Widow and Relict, and Henry Cornish eldest Son of the said Henry Cornish; Be it enacted by the King and Queen's Most Excellent Majesties, and by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, that the Conviction and Attainder of the said Henry Cornish deceased for High Treason be hereby revers'd, annul'd and made void to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever. And to the end that Right be done to the Memory of the deceased Henry Cornish aforesaid, Be it further enacted, that all Records and Proceedings relating to the said Attainder be wholly cancel'd and taken off the File, or otherwise defac'd and obliterated, to the intent the same may not be visible in After-ages; and that at the next Sessions of Goal Delivery to be holden after the Feast of St. Michael next for the City of London, the said Records and Proceedings shall be brought into the Court, and then and there taken off from the File and cancel'd.

Copia Verba.

In Brown Cleric Parliament.

Mr. Cornish's Jury were,

Tho. Kirtinson in the Old Baily.

Tho. Langburr in Bishopsgate-street.

Ambrose Thed in Fleetstreet.

Tho. Pendleton near St. Austins Gate.

John Grice in Newgatestreet.

Thomas Onley in Aldermanbury.

Will. Clouff by in Old Fishstreet.

Richard Hillord on Breadstreet-Hill.

William Langmore in Cornhill.

Stephen Colman in Leadenhall-street.

Robert Clavel, West End of St. Paul's.

William Long in Fleetstreet.

